

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 SCA-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 VO-01 A-01 /050 W

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R 201545Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2676

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR JM

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S RECALL

1. A FREE-LANCE JOURNALIST NAMED GEORGE CRILE HAS SPENT THE PAST WEEK IN JAMAICA GATHERING INFORMATION FOR A STORY ON AMBASSADOR DE ROULET'S TENURE HERE AND HIS RECALL TO THE UNITED STATES. CRILE HAS APPARENTLY RANGED WIDELY DURING HIS WEEK IN JAMAICA BUT HAD ONLY TWO CONTACTS WITH THE EMBASSY. INFORMED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HIS IMPENDING ARRIVAL, I HAD INSTRUCTED EVERYONE IN THE MISSION THAT ONLY I WAS TO SEE HIM SHOULD HE MAKE CONTACT WITH THEM. HE DID CALL ME AND ASKED FOR AN INTERVIEW, BUT THE PERIOD BETWEEN HIS CALL AND HIS IMPENDING DEPARTURE MADE ONLY A BRIEF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION POSSIBLE.

2. IN THIS CONVERSATION, CRILE SOUGHT CONFIRMATION OF THE EVIDENCE OF A "DEAL" BETWEEN AMBASSADOR DE ROULET AND PRIME MINISTERMANLEY. I REPLIED THAT MY KNOWLEDGE WAS LIMITED TO THE PRESS ACCOUNTS OF AMBASSADOR DE ROULET'S TESTIMONY AND THAT OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HURWITCH. CRILE THEN WENT ON TO THE VISA PROBLEM AND ASKED A SERIES OF QUESTIONS DESIGNED TO ELICIT INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT A LARGE PART OF OUR VISA PROBLEM AROSE FROM THE POLCIES AND DIRECTIVES OF THE AMBASSADOR AND THAT THE

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AMBASSADOR'S POLICIES WERE RACIST IN NATURE. IN RESPONSE

I EXPLAINED IN SOME DETAIL THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF JAMAICA WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THE VISA PROBLEM , THE DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN ENFORCING THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION ACT, AND THE PROBLEMS POSED BY THE PHYSICAL FACILITIES IN WHICH WE HAD TO OPERATE. I HOPE I WAS ABLE TO DIVERT HIM FROM THE SINGLE-MINDED LINKAGE BETWEEN THE AMBASSADOR'S VIEWS, WHATEVER THEY MAY HAVE BEEN AND THE VISA ISSUE.

3. IN ADDITION, A JOURNALIST WHO DID NOT IDENTIFY HIMSELF FURTHER APPEARED AT THE MARINE SECURITY GUARD QUARTERS ON AUGUST 18 AND TALKED TO ONE OF THE MARINE SECURITY GUARDS IN AN EFFORT TO CONFIRM STORIES HE HAD APPARENTLY HEARD ABOUT AMBASSADOR DE ROULET'S REASONS FOR ABRUPTLY TRANSFERRING THE PREVIOUS NCOIC OF THE MARINE SECURITY GUARD. THE MARINE APPROACHED QUITE PROPERLY REFUSED TO DISCUSS ANYTHING WITH HIM AND ASKED HIM TO LEAVE, WHICH HE DID. THIS WAS PROBABLY CRILE.

4. IN HIS CONVERSTION WITH ME, CRILE ADMITTED PUBLISHING STORIES PREVIOUSLY IN HARPERS MAGAZINE, BUT DECLINED TO SAY WHERE HE EXPECTED HIS STORY ON AMBASSADOR DE ROULET TO BE BE PUBLISHED. HEWITT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL RECALL, VISA REGULATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KINGST02794
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730828/aaaaauhe.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <30-Jan-2002 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR'S RECALL
TAGS: PFOR, JM, US, (DE ROULET), (CRILE, GEORGE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005